

PEACE NEWS

The Weekly Newspaper of the Peace Pledge Union serving all who are working for Peace

No. 29.

London: January 2, 1937.

2d.

HOW YOU CAN HELP SPANISH PEOPLE

Pacifists to the Fore in Relief Work

"For the Healing of the Nations"

THE Peace Pledge Union is cooperating with the War Resisters' International in helping Spanish children.

The International has its own representative now in Valencia, Prof. José Brocca, of Madrid University, who is a member of the W.R.I. Council and will administer the funds they are sending him.

THE LEAGUE TO TAKE A HAND?

CCHEQUES and other monetary gifts should be addressed to

Miss Margery Rayne,
Peace Pledge Union,

96 Regent Street, London, W.1.

Clothing is also needed and should be sent to:—

Messrs. Davies, Turner & Co. Ltd.,
Carrier House, 4 Lower Belgrave
Street, London S.W.1.

clearly marked "P.P.U.—for Spain" and bearing the name and address of the sender.

Will any member of the Peace Pledge Union with a knowledge of Spanish who is willing to assist communicate with H. Runham Brown, War Resisters' International, 11 Abbey Road, Enfield, Middlesex?

Having just returned from a visit to Spain, undertaken in connexion with the efforts of the Save the Children Fund and the Society of Friends to bring succour to the refugee children, Horace G. Alexander, in a letter in the "Manchester Guardian" of December 28, supported the appeal for this joint fund which has already appeared in these columns.

MAKING WORLD KINDLIER

"Although so much is being done for the refugees by the local authorities," he wrote, referring particularly to Barcelona, "there are some things they cannot do. There is a grave shortage of milk—in the cities especially—and of some of the other foods most needed for children; fuel is also badly needed. Warm clothing will be needed too."

"If we can support the splendid efforts of the Spanish people to look after their own sufferers, I believe we shall be helping in some measure to make the world a kinder, gentler place. Indeed it will be for the healing of the nations."

Funds can be sent to the Save the Children Fund, 20 Gordon Square, London, W.C.1, or the Friends Service Council, Friends House, Euston Road, London, N.W.1.

Following our announcement, last week, of gifts for Spanish refugees by the Women's Section of the Labour Party, the Trades Union Congress General Council announced, just before Christmas, the granting of £1,000 from the International Solidarity Fund to be spent on clothing obtained cheaply through the Cooperative Wholesale Society for immediate dispatch to Spain.

Meanwhile, the Spanish Government itself has asked the Secretary-General of the League of Nations to send experts "to study means of lessening the horrors of war in Spain and of evacuating the refugees". The request is understood to be being complied with.

NON-INTERVENTION MEASURES

Diplomatic Attempts to Supervize Them

WHILE the work of relieving suffering in Spain is being carried on mainly by private organizations, activity in the diplomatic sphere has centred chiefly around the proposals for a system of supervision to ensure observance of the Non-Intervention Agreement.

A "demand that the British and French Governments should state clearly that if the Franco-British proposal is not accepted in fact by Germany and Italy by a given near date, France and England will resume full liberty of action in furnishing supplies to the Spanish republic" was made at a conference organized by the World Committee against War and Fascism.

The British in India

TEN thousand people listened to an expression by Mahatma Gandhi, at Faizpur on Sunday, of his attitude to Indian home rule. Speaking at an exhibition which was taking place during the annual session of the Indian National Congress, he is reported to have said:

If you do all that I want you to do Lord Linlithgow will say, "I am wrong. I thought you people were terrorists, and, if you like, we Britishers will go back in the next steamer." We would then say to Lord Linlithgow and the Britishers, "India is big enough to hold you and more like you."

and how Governments Try To Stop War

The scheme of control which has been put forward has been described by Vernon Bartlett, in a letter to "The Times", as "complicated, costly, and impractical".

He added that as "cruisers or destroyers of non-interventionist Powers are now lying off every Spanish port that matters," if their officers were "armed with a brief order dispatched as the result of an agreement by the London Committee they could visit every ship with a cargo to land. No rifle and no volunteer could reach Spain by sea."

AN EVASIVE ANSWER

The alleged impracticability of the present proposals furnished the excuse for General Franco to postpone a definite reply concerning them. A Note sent by him to the Non-Intervention Committee and published on December 23 asked for further information, when "the National Government will continue its study" of the committee's communication.

The need for effective supervision was admitted in a resolution adopted by the committee on December 23, when the Russian representative made severe criticisms of General Franco's communication.

On Christmas Eve it became known that, owing to the extent of German assistance being rendered to the rebel forces, the French Government had informed the British Government that they might have to revise their policy if effective guarantees of non-intervention were not devised shortly. It was reported simultaneously that representations on the subject had been made to the German Ambassadors in London and Paris.

This was followed, on Sunday, by Notes delivered to the German Foreign Office, by the French and British Ambassadors in Berlin, which were believed to urge the taking of immediate steps to stop the flow of fighters to Spain, and a more strict observance of non-intervention. On Tuesday it was reported that some delay would be likely before a reply would be made by Germany to the Franco-British proposals for a general ban on "volunteers" for either side in Spain.

The French Government's uneasiness at the extent of Germany's assistance may easily be understood, particularly in view of a Gibraltar report last week that "Germans are to be seen everywhere at the bases of the Madrid front, Avila, San Martin de Valdeiglesias, and Toledo, and all along the roads which lead to the capital from those towns."

NEXT WEEK

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Religion & World Affairs

A GENERAL feeling exists among Church leaders that there has been a drift from religion and that religion has not had the influence it should in world affairs and in matters affecting the maintenance of peace.

"The hope is expressed that there will be such a revival as will make even Governments recognize more fully the will of the people on international affairs."

With this by way of introduction from "The Times", the Archbishop of Canterbury broadcast, last Sunday, a "recall to religion" which was to be both a message for the year that has just begun and the initiation of a new movement by the churches.

After a reference to the state of religion in some other countries, he noted these three facts:

1. "There is beyond question a drift away from religion."
2. "There is . . . an instinct of religion and of sound morality in the common heart."
3. There is "an interest in religion."

On this basis he appealed for a return to religion on the part of individuals and of the nation as a whole.

Picture of Society

Anticipating this "recall to religion", Dean Matthews said in a sermon in St. Paul's Cathedral on Christmas Day:

"We should have our fate well set in the way of peace if the majority of men—nay, the majority of Christians—carried about in their minds a picture of a society, not with Christ as an outcast in a stable, or a crucified criminal, but one acknowledged as Lord and leader."

"But we must also hope that the religion to which we shall return will have the revolutionary note of the first Christianity; that it will not be of the kind that justifies things as they are, but rather of the kind that puts down the tyrant from his seat and raises up the humble and meek and will really change civilization and our society in the only way they can be permanently changed—by changing the pictures in men's minds and by revolutionizing their thoughts and wills."

PRACTICAL PLANS FOR WORLD UNITY

FAMOUS MEN BEHIND £1,000,000 SCHEME

A "MEANS whereby constructive peace endeavours should be raised above mere pacifism and provided with a concrete aim" is the description given to proposals put forward in a pamphlet published last week under the title **The World Foundation: A Proposal for Immediate Action on a World Basis.**

There are twenty signatories, among whom are to be found such well known names as Sir Norman Angell, Dr. M. J. Bonn, Guglielmo Ferrero, Commander Stephen King-Hall, Lord Lytton, Jules Romains, Sir Arthur Salter, and Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur; the chairman is Salvador de Madariaga.

An Unofficial Body

UNDETERRED by the growing virulence of warlike tendencies," declares the opening statement, "and stimulated by the yearning for peace equally intense throughout the world, a group of men have been working for some time on the following proposals."

The proposals are based on the belief that the troubles of today are due to the fact that, **although the world is a unit and its inhabitants are a world community, they continue to endeavour to arrange their lives as sixty separate nations.** From this springs the necessity to foster "world consciousness"—especially among the leading men of the world. To attain this end it is proposed "to enlist a group of men endowed with experience of world affairs and in a position to spread the new idea throughout the world."

WIDE SCOPE

The World Foundation is to be an unofficial institution, and it will operate through two main departments—research and study, and dissemination and education. Among the subjects which would come within the purview of the former department would be currency organization, economic organization, armament manufacture, and undeveloped territories.

An endowment of £1,000,000 is sought to carry out the programme in view, and it is hoped to raise this amount from large and small gifts from people of all nations. Further information may be obtained from the World Foundation Committee, 53-4, Haymarket, London, S.W.1, and 50 East 58th Street, New York.

AN ANTI-CHRISTIAN SYSTEM

Men Less Important Than Machines

A reference to fascism and the battle of ideas being fought out in Great Britain was made by the Rev. C. B. Whyatt, a Baptist Minister, in a mid-day address at Cross Street Chapel, Manchester, last week.

He was speaking in connexion with the campaign of the Christian Peace Front, which, he said, approached the problem of the social order not from the political and economic angle solely, but from the point of view of Christianity. Scientific advances might improve the lot of the working man, he added, but they had also been used to murder men or to throw them out of work so that more profit might find its way into industrialists' pockets.

An industrial system which treated human beings as of less importance than the machines they minded, he declared, was contrary to the declared will and purpose of God.

War and class distinction were denials of the fatherhood of God. Those of the Christian Peace Front could not come to terms with fascism.

WHERE PEOPLE GATHER

I AM sure that you will be delighted to know that I have arranged for three copies of **PEACE NEWS** to be displayed in the Reading Room of the Central and Branch Libraries. In addition I have three doctors who are members of the P.P.U. and with whom I have arranged for **PEACE NEWS** to be displayed in the surgery.

"I forward this as possibly this idea could be utilized by other groups. I am following up with dentists and any other suitable trades people."—From a Reading reader.

Peace Pledge Union

TELLING OTHERS WHAT WE STAND FOR

From Our Own Correspondents

THE explanation of the policy of the Peace Pledge Union to members of other organizations is now becoming a feature of the activity being undertaken by many teams.

During recent weeks, for example, the **New Southgate** and district team, besides visiting several outside bodies, has circularized the local press and the whole of the Churches in one area. Three out of five local newspapers gave publicity to the movement.

Unfortunately the Churches, with one exception, entirely ignored the appeal for an opportunity to state the pacifist case.

"The Peace Pledge Union and its aims" was the title of an address given by a local signatory to members of a Brotherhood at **Yiewsley** (Middlesex) last week. Questions asked by the audience showed some doubt as to the method by which peace could be ensured.

Dr. Barnes—New President of National Peace Council

Programme for this Year's Congress

DR. E. W. BARNES, Bishop of Birmingham, has accepted the Presidency of the National Peace Council in succession to Dr. G. P. Gooch, who recently retired after three years in office. Dr. Barnes, who has been Bishop of Birmingham since 1924, is known as one of the most outspoken advocates of peace among the leading personalities in the Churches.

"FOLLOWING UP" AN EXHIBITION

Developments at Newark

AN anti-war exhibition and youth peace conference held by Newark Peace Society recently (and reported in **PEACE NEWS**) is being "followed up" in a very practical way.

The society is inviting all sympathizers between the ages of sixteen and thirty to join as ordinary members. Those over thirty are invited to become honorary members.

This organization has also published a report of the exhibition and youth peace conference, which may be obtained, price 2d., from the secretary, Miss D. Singleton, of 27 Hardwick Avenue, Newark. In addition to this it is hoped to publish a monthly booklet under the title of "Youth Speaks", which will deal with all matters relating to youth in the fight for peace.

A SHORTER WEEK'S WORK

Experts at Annual L.N.U. Conference

THE Shorter Working Week "will be the subject of a conference to be held by the League of Nations Union at the London School of Economics next month. For several years the Union has held a conference in London to discuss industrial and other problems which are under consideration by the International Labour Conference and the League of Nations.

The conference will take place from February 16 to 18 and tickets (costing 2s. 6d. for all sessions, or 1s. for separate sessions) are obtainable from the League of Nations Union, 15 Grosvenor Crescent, London, S.W.1.

Several experts in the different aspects of the subject have promised to speak at the conference.

The National Peace Congress, 1937, is to be held in London, according to an announcement made by the National Peace Council last week. The congress will be the 27th of the series and will take place from April 9 to 12.

The programme of the congress, which is a general assembly of all the national and local organizations directly or indirectly interested in the peace movement, will include public demonstrations and a series of discussions.

These discussions will take place in commissions and full sessions, on organizational and policy questions—the latter dealing particularly with rearmament and a constructive economic programme.

The Christian pacifist message was explained by members of the Ilford Circuit Group of the Methodist Peace Fellowship to a meeting of the **Rainham** Peace Council recently.

One of the three speakers, Mr. C. Edkins, recounted his experiences as a conscientious objector during the War, and said that at that time he felt they had laid the foundation of the ever-increasing body of pacifists. The secretary of the group told the audience that over 700 Methodist Ministers had already enrolled in the Methodist Peace Fellowship, and explained the conditions under which people were invited to join.

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PEACE NEWS
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HOLIDAY FELLOWSHIP REUNION

Mr. Arnold S. Rowntree hopes to preside over the annual general meeting of the Holiday Fellowship, which will take place at 1.30 p.m. on January 16 in the Guild Hall, Town Hall Buildings, Preston. The reunion will follow in the Public Hall, Lune Street, at 7 p.m.

"What can I do to lessen the chances of war?" is the title of an article by G. V. Bull appearing in the current issue of "Over the Hills," the quarterly magazine of the Fellowship, which is obtainable, price 3d., from The Holiday Fellowship, 142 Great North Way, London, N.W.4.

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A "BUDGET OF MERCY"

Social Services in New Zealand

Auckland.

AFTER eight months in office, the New Zealand Labour Government has offered its first budget. The extraordinary provisions made for the aged, the widows, the invalids, and for deserted wives has earned it the name "Budget of Mercy." Not less than £5,480,000 out of a total of £31,000,000 is allotted to these social services, an increase of £1,710,000.

These additional funds are not to be raised by sales taxes, although New Zealand still uses that device, but rather by an increase in the income tax in the upper categories and by a gradual land tax which will be paid chiefly by the large landowners.

New Zealand has long been known for its advanced social legislation. Its old age pension act goes back to 1898. —Nofrontier News Service.

PEACE POSTERS IN SCHOOL

An Example from France

Marseilles.—In a recent issue of "L'Educateur Proletarien" there is a poster for schools entitled "Wars and Pillage."

It deals chiefly with Napoleon and his generals and it shows how these enriched themselves personally by plundering and by levies. In 1807 Napoleon assigned to sixteen of his generals 7,500,000 francs, a very small part of the plunder from Poland.

The poster also tells the story of a French general who returned with so much plunder from the French colonies in 1902 that the Government refused to let him land his baggage!

Such realistic posters are part of the peace campaign in the French schools. —Nofrontier News Service.

THEY WANT TO BE UNARMED

Canadian Party's Plan

The last convention of the Canadian Commonwealth Federation, Canada's Social Democratic party, also dealt with the problems of war and peace. J. S. Woodworth, leader of the party, declared for a three point programme.

First, he wants Canada to pass such legislation, as did South Africa some years ago, as would permit Canada to stay out of any British war. As matters stand at present Canada is virtually compelled to follow Britain into any war.

Woodworth further seeks an unarmed Canada. Finally, he declares only a socialized Canada will ever really prove an obstacle to war. In all these matters Mr. Woodworth was able to carry his party with him. —Nofrontier News Service.

FIGHTING A DISGRACE

"I oppose anti-Semitism because it disgraces our Christianity." These words form the motto of a weekly journal entitled "Gerechtigkeit" ("Justice") which is published by Irene Harand, an energetic Catholic woman of Vienna, who is fighting anti-Semitism. She is organizing in various countries and planning a world congress in Vienna.



"Lord must I do this?"—by Arthur Wragg

WORKING FOR PEACE ON BOTH SIDES OF THE PACIFIC

In Japan --- and the Americas

VARIOUS organizations of Christian women in Japan have been very effective in educational work and in influencing Government officials. One of these has 4,000 regular members.

Efforts toward peace are a leading activity of these groups and they have built up a useful body of contacts within Japan and in America and other western countries. They also hold essay and speaking contests among high school students on subjects related to peace.

The award of the prizes is generally made before important audiences and the student essayists and speakers present ideas which the police would not permit adults to express.

One organization has performed valuable service for Chinese students in Tokyo. Others maintain extensive correspondence with Christian women in western countries.

These women are also responsible for large scale correspondence and exchange programmes in Japanese girls' schools, directed toward sane international attitudes. Their sincerity of purpose is evident and their leaders have undergone real risks in their peaceful efforts. —Nofrontier News Service.

IN addition to approving a draft convention designed to ensure fulfillment of existing treaties, the recent Pan-American Peace Conference approved a large number of other conventions, declarations, resolutions, and recommendations, which have been treated by the press as being of lesser importance.

Yet the list of subjects covered by these other statements is impressive enough to make one wonder whether in themselves they were not important enough to justify the holding of the conference. Subjects covered included:—

- Pacifist teaching.
- Development of cultural relations.
- Interchange of publications.
- Educational and propagandist films.
- Art exhibitions.
- Revision of school text books.
- Suppression of pro-war films and plays.
- Moral disarmament.
- Use of broadcasting for peace.
- Women's rights.
- Exchange of documents relating to public instruction.
- An association of American writers and artists.
- A pan-American broadcasting hour.
- American library exchange.

(continued in col. 4)

WOMEN AND I.P.C.

Position To Be Discussed

The question of relationship to the International Peace Campaign will be one of the questions to be discussed by the Peace and Disarmament Committee of the Women's International Organizations, when it meets at Copenhagen next month.

The committee will meet on February 11 and 13, and on the intervening day will be held a conference on international affairs at which the topics for discussion will be:—

1. The actual international situation.
2. Renewed attempts to break the international deadlock, (a) by economic methods, and (b) by political methods, including arms limitation.

(continued from col. 3)

Protection of intellectual property.
Presentation publication of works of art.
The press as an agent of peace.

Peace News

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The Weekly Newspaper of the Peace Pledge Union

Taking the Constructive Pacifist Position, but providing news, information and an open forum

Serving all who are working for Peace

January 2, 1937.

LOVE AND DUTY

WHAT is duty? If this had been Pilate's question instead of "What is truth?" it could not have been easier to answer. Yet an English archbishop can speak of "duty" as if it were a universally understood and, what is more, a fixed thing. In a speech mainly devoted, it is true, to a particular subject, the Archbishop of York recently ran to this generalization: "Any kind of love which can be in conflict with duty is not the love of which the Gospel speaks." What he meant may have been both clear and true in its particular context, but as a dogmatic and general statement it raises problems in other directions, especially for the pacifist.

For while, on the one hand, the latter's main—and strongest—case for his pacifism is an attitude toward his fellow human beings, whoever they may be, corresponding to (if not called) "the love of which the Gospel speaks," on the other, the stock argument intended to make him willing to kill certain human beings is that it is his duty to do so.

The "Concise Oxford Dictionary" tells us that "duty" means "behaviour due to a superior." Thus, the stock argument with which pacifists are assailed assumes that we owe it to some "superior" being, or body, or perhaps even principle or cause, to do our worst to fellow-members of the world's family. It would simplify matters if the "superior" authority were merely claimed to be one's country. In such a case the pacifist can point out the obvious fact that humanity in general—not to mention the spirit of man, or the world's life of which that spirit is part—is superior to the material—or even cultural—interests of a few men who happen to have been born in a particular part of the world. But the issue is complicated by such unashamed assertions as that to kill other men is a duty we owe to humanity even, if not in fact, to the slaughtered men themselves!

The point, however, is that the Archbishop of York maintains that if we say our love for men forbids us to kill them then that very conflict with what is assumed to be our duty proves automatically that our love is something less than "the love of which the Gospel speaks." While "duty" is a matter of interpretation, or (more reasonably) of choice of "superior" authority we might agree with the Archbishop. But if "duty", in the matter of war, is taken for granted as being whatever the Government of the day dictates, then we not only disagree, but definitely assert that those who seek to practise "the love of which the Gospel speaks" must find themselves in conflict with that kind of "duty".

Reflection

THE Hindus say that he whose mind is at peace can pass unnoticed through the most crowded place.

PACIFISM versus the ARCHBISHOP of CANTERBURY—

who can still contemplate participation in another war

By

WILFRED WELLOCK

EVEN the Archbishop of Canterbury now finds it necessary to defend Christianity against pacifism.

The more ardently men of the Archbishop's standing do that sort of thing, the sooner will pacifism—and Christianity—come into its own. The present age has been in the habit of regarding pacifism as a joke, too ridiculous to be taken seriously.

When, however, a few outstanding minds investigated the principle and became convinced that it was sound, the public began to sit up. Moreover, the realization of the horrors of mechanical and chemical warfare has proved too powerful for even the strongest prejudice, and has not only put pacifism on the map, so to speak, but helped to make its challenge inescapable.

And now it is being discovered that pacifism can stand up to all the criticism that can be levelled against it, is in fact thriving upon criticism, and driving its opponents on to the defensive.

★ ★

THE Archbishop of Canterbury is no exception to the rule.

In replying to the case put by a number of pacifists to him and others at Lambeth Palace, he is reported to have said that,

"looking at the question from the point of view of practical realities, the pacifist attitude involved consequences to others, in the event of war, which he as a Christian could not contemplate with equanimity."

Now since it is universally agreed that "in the event of war" all the peoples participating will be decimated, their cities destroyed, their homes demolished, and life altogether turned into a howling wilderness, the bottom goes out of the Archbishop's case at once. We all know what has happened in Madrid; that already nearly half the city has been destroyed.

Yet Spain is a toy affair compared with what the next international war will be, when the mighty military machines now being set up come into play, and when the belligerents have no "friends" to consider. Into the beyond of such a war the mind cannot penetrate.

Nor can it picture a worse calamity, nor anything that is worth having that could survive it. Whatever we prize—liberty, friendship, democracy—would all be swept away by another war. Even the Archbishop must acknowledge that no efforts of pacifism could be worse than that. At least, then, there is a very strong case for pacifism to be tried.

★ ★

FIRST of all, however, let it be fully realized that pacifism does not mean merely refusing to fight, and then folding one's arms.

It involves action of the most exalted and courageous kind, the acknowledgment of injustice and measures designed to remove it. In the present situation it would openly acknowledge that Germany had been wronged by the Treaty of Versailles, propose immediately to take certain steps with a view to righting the wrong, and on the strength of such action declare that Britain had finished with war and would forthwith withdraw from the world's war systems.

Does the Archbishop of Canterbury believe that Germany's reply to such a course of action would be a daily shower of bombing planes with intent to wipe us out?

★ ★

LET us assume that the boot was on the other leg, and that Germany acted towards us in the manner named. Does Archbishop Lang believe that our

reply would be in terms of poison gas? He knows it would not. Then what right have we to assume that Germany would not act with equal valour? Are we not all of one flesh?

Moreover is not the entire fabric of Christianity founded on the belief that goodness and mercy must finally triumph? Without that belief our vision of a world living in peace and concord is a sham. It may be that a few men in any society could become so brutalized as to act madly and inhumanly, but not a whole nation.

Hence I think we are entitled to say that were pacifism adopted, the amount of slaughter that might occur would be infinitesimal compared with what would happen, even in a "defensive" war, assuming there were such a thing, these days.

★ ★

NOR is there any escape for the Archbishop in the argument that war may be avoided by adequate armaments, since I believe he has supported the Government's rearmament programme in the House of Lords.

He ought to be the first to acknowledge that the present armaments race springs from a mass of injustice; that Nazi Germany itself is a product of the Treaty of Versailles, and its rearmament an expression of the nation's despair.

That armaments race, moreover, is a measure of the antagonisms and distrust which exist between the Powers, and a proof that unless the method of pacifism be tried, it will, as all history teaches us to expect, end in war.

In conclusion I would remind the Archbishop that while he is able to contemplate participation in another war, a greater than he has proclaimed that "The work of righteousness SHALL BE peace."

IT SEEMS TO ME

by Ampersand

"God's Athletes"

I HAVE just been reading Helen Waddell's book on the Desert Fathers.

That remarkable reaction from the violence and luxury of the late Roman Empire, which sent thousands into the Egyptian desert to live in silent solitude, is full of interest for us. For the world they fled was remarkably like ours.

Shut up in lonely cells, fasting, mastering anger, the keynote of their lives was discipline. They were "God's athletes" (ascetic=one in training). As the abbot Daniel used to say: "When the body hath grown lean, then doth the soul wax fat."

The wise ones, however, saw the dangers of austerity. "It is better to eat flesh and drink wine," punned Hyperichius, than to eat the flesh of the brethren by backbiting them."

Some colonies hired themselves out as harvesters, sending their share to the poor of Rome. One father effectively demonstrated the pacifist technique by making friends with a hippopotamus.

Still, the world went on.

"Tell me, I pray thee, how fares the human race: if new roofs be risen in the ancient cities: whose empire it is that now sways the world?"

How's Piccadilly these days? Is Baldwin still going strong?—we recognize the mood.

Meanwhile, these men rediscovered that self-control and devotion which the Roman world had lost. Query: how much of their training can we use in daily life?

Blood

THE London Blood Transfusion Service has celebrated its fifteenth year by passing the 5,000-case mark for the first time.

The annual transfer of some five hundred gallons of blood without a single accident shows how remarkably businesslike and matter-of-fact this vital service has now become. In fact, the founder tells me that his chief difficulty is with sensational news stories about his "heroes".

Actually, donors serve about twice a year, walk home after a cup of tea.

A practical expression of solidarity, blood giving is a recognized form of service in several P.P.U. groups. As Gerald Heard remarked the other day, it is an excellent answer to the gibe that pacifists won't spill their blood for others, to be able to point out:

"Why, they're constantly spilling it—pints at a time!"

"Made in England"

BRITISH exports of arms and ammunition maintain last year's high level.

At £3,300,000 for the first eleven months of 1936, the figure may seem negligible compared with government orders. Yet Britain remains an easy first among exporting countries, with nearly a third the registered total trade.

Although such exports don't affect the risk of European conflict, they do much to keep Arabia, China, Central Asia, and South America trouble ridden. Many of the Afghan tribesmen against whom a punitive expedition has just been sent, are armed with British rifles.

In those "backward" areas which still fight with bullets instead of bombers and battleships, three million pounds worth of arms goes a long way.

In a recent investigation by the New Orleans police, drug smuggling from Central America was also found to be closely connected with the small arms traffic, since export agents took drugs in payment.

For stirring up strife with one hand and suppressing it with the other there are many unpleasant names. It would be a pity if history applied them to Britain.

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"Unsatisfactory" Recruiting

Only "Large and Immediate" Increase
Will Save Voluntary System

—War Minister

"IT cannot be too strongly emphasized that the voluntary system is on trial today. The disturbing fact which we can ignore only at our peril is that recruiting continues to be so unsatisfactory that unless there is a large and immediate improvement the system will break down." This warning by Mr. Duff Cooper, Secretary for War, appears in an article in "Home and Empire", the official Conservative organ.

PRESENT GOVERNMENT PLEDGED

CONSTANT references to conscription appearing in the newspapers controlled by Lord Rothermere formed the subject of an article by Emrys Hughes in last week's issue of "Forward", a Glasgow socialist newspaper, in which attention was drawn to a hint in the "Sunday Pictorial" recently that the Government might go to the country and ask for a mandate for conscription.

"The fact that there hasn't been a tremendous rush to the recruiting offices in response to the orations of Mr. Duff Cooper," added Emrys Hughes, "ought to make the Government think twice before risking a General Election on conscription."

A "military expert" interviewed by the "Sunday Pictorial" was reported as having said that

"We cannot police the Empire adequately. A few troops for India or Egypt and the home forces are reduced to below the minimum. 'God help us in case of war'."

"There speaks the voice of British Hitlerism," commented Emrys Hughes, "The voice that will be heard more and more during the next few months."

"We know already that the total income that the people of Britain receive from overseas investments is a good deal less than the expenditure on the British Army, Navy, and Air Force. So that if we didn't have the job of policing India, Egypt, etc., we would be financially better off."

"NO CONSCRIPTION" PLEDGE

It will be remembered that on being asked in the House of Commons whether he could affirm that conscription would not be introduced, Mr. Baldwin replied "Yes, sir, so far as the present Government is concerned." Nevertheless, the "New Statesman and Nation" recently declared that the final touches were being put to a Conscription Bill covering all the male population.

The "Sunday Pictorial" thinks Mr. Baldwin's statement was ambiguous, while "Forward" suggested that "perhaps both Lord Rothermere's organ and the 'New Statesman' may be partly right."

"Who knows that a scare followed by a General Election might not do the trick?"

EFFECT OF ABDICATION

It is interesting to recall that before the abdication of Edward VIII. Lord Rothermere wrote in the "Daily Mail":

"Now that the shortage of recruits has become a grave national emergency the King is the only human agency to whom we can look to make the voluntary system a success. If he goes conscription will be inevitable."

One of the most crucial questions concerning conscription, however, is asked by Emrys Hughes, who asks (echoing Lord Ponsonby's recent question at the Royal Albert Hall):

"We would like to know where you think the conscript armies will fight, and for whom, and for what?"

GERMANY IN THE ECONOMIC WAR

Factors Behind Demand
for Colonies

A VAIN HOPE

INCREASING economic difficulties within Germany have again brought into the limelight her colonial claims, notably in a recent speech by Herr Von Ribbentrop, the Ambassador in London, at a dinner given by the Anglo-German Fellowship, and in an article written by Dr. Schacht for an American review.

The Berlin correspondent of "The Times", in a message published last week, after declaring that "without relief of some sort, no one can see how Germany is to get through another winter, if she gets through this one," reported that the "moderates" (in which are included the Foreign Office, Dr. Schacht, the industrialists, and responsible military chiefs) were "clearly playing for at least a 'little' concession . . . for the sake of prestige and as a desperate means of tiding over the food crisis psychologically."

Although any such small concession would be made to cause a big impression in the public mind, the message added the warning that it "would offer Europe little, if any, prospect of relief from anxiety, for it would admittedly have slight chance of leading to the abandonment of intensive rearmament, the Four-Year Plan, and the policy of self-sufficiency for military purposes."

FRENCH ATTITUDE

The attitude of France to German claims would seem to be that they should be granted only on condition that Germany is ready to make the necessary contribution to a final European settlement.

Referring to the question so far as it concerned Africa, Sir Evelyn Wrench wrote in "The Times" on Tuesday that

"If the argument is used that Germany is not fit to 'own' colonies, in common fairness it must be admitted that other colony-owning countries in Africa have episodes which they would do well to forget."

He added that till we had an authoritative answer to the question "would German self-esteem be satisfied by the allocation of a mandate or is she demanding complete sovereignty over a large area of Africa?" much of the discussion was irrelevant.

"SHADOW" MOBILIZATION

Meanwhile it was reported last week that in Germany itself organization of skilled labour "as a provision against any emergency" was being carried out on lines which were considered more complete than the "shadow" mobilization believed to have taken place before 1914.

(continued at foot of col. 3)

PUBLIC AFFAIRS IN BRIEF

British Semi-Recognition of Italian Empire
Germans Being Kept at Home

ABYSSINIA

It was reported on December 22 that the British Government had decided to substitute a Consulate-General for the British Legation in Addis Ababa, thus indicating de facto recognition of Italian sovereignty.

CHINA

The Chinese Premier, General Chiang Kai-Shek, was released by General Chang Hsueh-Liang on December 25. In a statement published by the latter it was explained that the incident resulted from a misunderstanding, while the Prime Minister, in another statement, declared that his own carelessness had contributed to the trouble.

CUBA

The President of the Republic was deposed after having been found guilty on two charges preferred by the House of Representatives, according to a message dated December 27.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

In a broadcast speech on December 24, Dr. Benesh (the President) said that they in Prague were convinced there would be no war in Europe because of Spain.

EGYPT

The Anglo-Egyptian Treaty came into effect on December 22, when the British High Commissioner and the Egyptian Minister for Foreign Affairs exchanged ratifications.

FRANCE

The French Premier announced on December 22 that the Government had decided to withdraw the Compulsory Arbitration Bill in view of the opposition to it in the Senate. Another Bill would be substituted.

GERMANY

A Berlin report dated December 22 stated that new regulations made the permission of the military authorities necessary before men between 18 and 45 years old could obtain passports for foreign travel.

GREAT BRITAIN

Arrangements for the instruction of medical, dental, and veterinary practitioners, students, and nurses, in anti-gas measures were outlined in a circular published on December 22.

It was reported on December 23 that the five "over age" cruisers being retained by the British Government would be used as anti-aircraft ships.

INDIA

A New Delhi message dated December 23 reported an engagement between

the Army and Frontier tribesmen in which three men of the former were killed and thirteen wounded.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's presidential address at the Indian National Congress on December 27 contained attacks on the Government of India Act, 1935, and on imperialism. They would not allow the exploitation of the man power and resources of India for an imperialist war, he said.

ITALY

On December 24 it was stated that the Anglo-Italian discussions had made good progress and that an exchange of mutual assurances might be expected soon.

PALESTINE

A possibility of the cessation of the Arab boycott of the Royal Commission was seen in the Arab press according to Jerusalem messages published on December 24 and 25.

POLAND

The first reading of a Bill empowering the Finance Minister to contract long term loans of about £13,000,000 in France, was passed on December 22. The money is to be spent on national "defence".

RUMANIA

The Yugoslav Premier travelled to Rumania on December 26, where it was expected he would have important conversations with the Rumanian Premier and Foreign Minister; the latter had just returned from Paris.

TRADE

The U.S. Treasury's approval of barter transactions with Germany was reported in a New York message of December 23.

The trade war between Australia and Japan was ended by a new trade agreement announced on December 27.

U.S.A.

The Secretary for War, in a report for the year ending June 30, recommended an increase of about 20,000 officers and men for the Regular Army, according to a Washington message published on December 22.

U.S.S.R.

It was stated on December 24 that the German Ambassador in Moscow had had a conversation with the Soviet Foreign Minister and the Premier; it was believed to have some connexion with the forthcoming trial of a number of Germans who were arrested recently.

GOOD NEIGHBOURS DON'T NEED "CHINESE WALLS"

"WE are not moved by the mirage of self-containment, but we are aware of its perils. In a close-knit interdependent world we see the folly of seeking to build a Chinese wall around a hemisphere. Our purpose is not to isolate this continent, but to chart our own path to peace and thereby to set a practical example to other parts of the world."

This important declaration of policy was made by Mr. Cordell Hull, leader of the United States delegation to the Pan-American Peace Conference, in his closing address at Buenos Aires last week. He added that free peoples rejected the theory of the inevitability of war.

The work of the conference on the cultural side is described on page 3 of this issue. In addition to this, signatures have been put to treaties

covering:—

1. Maintenance of peace.
2. Coordination and amplification of existing treaties, and to a Non-Intervention Protocol.

The first two treaties provide for consultation in an emergency, and cover collective security and neutrality. The Non-Intervention Protocol, which has been welcomed as the end of the Monroe Doctrine, has been described as making the "good neighbour policy an international obligation," and was the only treaty signed without reservations.

The friendly atmosphere in which the conference took place has been attributed to the "good neighbour" policy pursued by the United States during the past four years.

(continued from col. 2)

It was also expected that when the organization of skilled labour had been completed, a further scheme would be introduced under which women and men unfit for military service would take the place of the skilled workers.

PEACEFUL WORK FOR THE ARMY!



"JOIN the Army and see the world" say these Tommies "loaned" to Gaumont British by the Army, and appearing with Anna Lee in *O.H.M.S.* Bottom right: Jessie Matthews, back at the studios after her long illness, reading through her lines for *Head over Heels* which she had to leave half finished to take to her bed. With her is director-husband Sonnie Hale.

NOTES ON SOME FILMS TO COME

By ERIC W. SYKES.

IF you were lucky enough, and in the Army, you might be called to the barrack square one morning and be told to "polish up yer uniform, yer goin' to be shot!"

This, however, would not cause you undue fear, for it would mean that you had been lent to Gaumont British or London Films for a talkie then in production.

Several hundred regular troops are filming with Leslie ("Sanders of the River") Banks, Flora ("Queen Elizabeth") Robson, Sebastian ("Men are not Gods") Shaw, and a host of other distinguished stars on the Denham pay-roll in *Troopship*, which Erich Pommer (who after Christmas is forming a film company of his own, with Charles Laughton) is producing.

It tells the story of a regiment returning from years of service abroad, only to be drafted elsewhere abroad with only six hours' leave; the film portrays the reaction of different men to this shocking news. The Admiralty has also cooperated in this film, and the Denham unit went to Gibraltar for filming purposes, and were treated with much suspicion by the Spanish authorities.

One outcome of this filming business will be that when peace and disarmament are ultimately achieved, many of those who now form our Army will be able to invade the British studios and rightly claim previous film experience!

AT LONG LAST

In PEACE NEWS for December 5 I wrote that there was a huge potential market for children's films but that no major film company had had vision enough to screen such productions.

Now, Paramount tell me, that will

not be so, for the great Cecil B. Mille ("Sign of the Cross", etc.) is personally supervising the first educational film ever produced at a major studio.

The film will be for exclusive distribution to schools (mainly American) and deals with the development of North America. This film is the first of a series. British producers, please note.

THEY GAVE HIM A GUN

That is the title of a new war film starring Franchot Tone and Spencer Tracy, for M.G.M., shortly going before the cameras.

The picture deals with the effect of war on the psychology of youth, tracing the transition of a young clerk into a dangerous criminal through the demoralizing experience of war.

This film will do a power of good, rightly handled; it is from a current American best seller of the same name by Major William J. Cowen.

BREVITIES

NORWEGIAN STAR A MYSTERY. Old Sam Goldwyn, whose months of secretive grooming resulted in his presenting Anna Sten to a wondering world, has chosen a Norwegian girl named Sigrid Gurie, and has already spent four months having her intensively trained for screen work.

He is going to jump her straight into stardom opposite Gary Cooper in *Marco Polo*.

CORRECTION. Myrna Loy is playing in *Parnell* with Gable, not Joan Crawford, after all (PEACE NEWS, December, 5). Exchange in casting resulted because Joan wants to play *The Last of Mrs. Cheyney*, shortly being re-made.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

BRIEF REVIEWS OF BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS

ECONOMIC POLICIES AND PEACE. Sir Arthur Salter. Hogarth Press. 1s.

The title of this little book was the subject of the Mertens Lecture given by Sir Arthur Salter in Friends House, London, recently, when he compared the international outlook of today with that of the years preceding the Great War.

Sir Arthur came to the conclusion that "economic policies thus occupy a place of altogether exceptional importance in the present international situation. The world of 1913 affords a very imperfect analogy, for it was free of provocative economic nationalism on anything like the scale on which we now witness it."

"Economic Policies and Peace" is No. 34 in the series of "Day to Day Pamphlets" published by the Hogarth Press.

THE NEW HERESY. G. W. Gregory. 3d.

The Rev. Gregory, in his introduction to this pamphlet, outlines his conversion "from an orthodox Christian to a follower of Christ", and describes the chapters which follow as "an attempt to see through the hovering clouds of war to the trustworthiness of Christ."

He answers some of the questions commonly put to pacifists, and applies Christ's words to the world as it is today. The pamphlet is obtainable from the Fellowship of Reconciliation, 17 Red Lion Square, London, W.C.1.

A CHRISTIAN SUBSTITUTE FOR ARMAMENTS. Leyton Richards. Fellowship of Reconciliation. 2d.

The implications of the faith held by a Christian when he is faced with aggressive evil are studied in this pamphlet by the Rev. Leyton Richards, who insists that "the Gospel offers the only finally effective way of resisting aggressive evil and defeating the evil designs of evil men." The author also deals with the necessity for constructive work in the cause of peace.

Broadcasting

HOW "THE OTHER MAN" LIVES

B.B.C. Gets Him To Tell Us

By "ARIEL"

AMONG the contributions made by the B.B.C. to the cause of international understanding was a series broadcast some time ago in which people from various countries discussed their work, and daily lives in general, with young British men and women.

At 9.20 p.m. on Friday next another set of these exchanges will begin, and for the ensuing five weeks two persons—one British and one from abroad—will come before the microphone.

The foreigner will speak from his or her own capital, while the "home" speakers will be chosen from various towns. France, Italy, Austria, Poland, Germany, and Denmark will be covered in this series, for which the following dates have been arranged:—

January 8	Paris
January 15	Rome
January 22	Vienna
January 29	Warsaw
February 5	Berlin
February 12	Copenhagen

FIFTY PLAIN PACIFIST POINTS. A. G. Prichard. 1d.

In this pamphlet the Rev. A. Prichard addresses himself to three classes of persons: to Christians, to members of the Labour Party, and to men and women of common sense. The author's points, simply and clearly stated, are grouped under these main headings.

An excellent presentation of the case for pacifism is made in the pamphlet, which is obtainable from H. J. Rowling & Sons, 36 York Road, Battersea, London, S.W.11.

THE LAW OF LOVE, AND THE COMPULSIONS OF SOCIETY. A. Herbert Gray. Fellowship of Reconciliation. 1d.

Dr. Gray deals in this pamphlet with the "difficult situations that must arise for a disciple of Christ, who lives in a society that does not yet acknowledge that law" (that is, the law of love).

In view of the fact that the Christian today is not living in a world where Christian standards always apply, many sincere people are inclined to doubt the wisdom of "out and out" Christian pacifism, and Dr. Gray's words on the subject would do much to clarify the issue in the mind of any such doubter.

SECOND BRUDERHOF LETTER. The Cotswold Bruderhof, Ashton Fields, Ashton Keynes, Wilts.

The publication (in September) of the First Bruderhof Letter, which outlined the story of "an attempt to give a witness of peace and brotherhood to men and to show that a life based entirely on love is possible here and now" aroused so much interest that it had to be reprinted. This, the second letter, is in the nature of a Christmas message, in which is set forth the practical work which is being developed.

The reason for the establishment of the Bruderhof is not lost sight of, however, and the authors of the letter state that they "are more and more convinced that they came to England just at the right moment. There is a definite movement toward life on a religious and social basis in this country . . ."

TO ALL CHRISTIANS! Henry Carter.

The ministry of reconciliation in the sphere of the racial hatred being directed against the Jews forms the subject of the Rev. Henry Carter's appeal in this leaflet, which may be obtained from the Fellowship of Reconciliation.

MEMORANDUM ON THE PROPOSALS FOR WORLD FEDERATION AND A NEW ECONOMIC SYSTEM. H. W. Willis.

The author of this pamphlet indicates the form a new world economic system is likely to take. The solution to all world problems, he considers, is "active pacifism plus world government."

A NEW POSTER

Working for Peace? is the question which appears at the top of a new poster (printed in red and black on white) published by the Northern Friends' Peace Board, Spring Bank, Rawdon, near Leeds. "Then," continues the poster, "are you seeking to understand—and to remove—the causes of world unrest?"

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WHITE POPPIES

I HAVE sold these white poppies for wear on Armistice Day for three years and find more and more people wanting them. Everyone admires them and the sellers of the red poppies are very interested and sympathetic.

If our friend J. H. Spence who found it causes bitterness would tell his friends that the profits go to help the men in other lands who prefer prison to learning to kill us, I think he will find a change.

SYBIL W. WHITE.

71 London Road,
Kilmarnock.

Many people who asked the meaning were so charmed with the idea that they told me that they preferred the white poppy to the red. Four members of my family wore them, and as we leave at different times in the morning, I found the poppy seller at our local station most curious as to why another sort of poppy was being worn by quite a number of people. When I enlightened the lady, she remarked "How beautiful".

May I ask our friends not to be discouraged, but rather pity the mentality of people who are prepared to argue on such a minor symbolical gesture.

(Miss) H. GENYON.

30 The Crossways,
Wembley Park, Middlesex.

SIX POINTS FROM
MALTA

I believe that the following suggestions would tend to bring a better world:—

1. That it would be more advantageous if all British and international pacifist movements would stand out, united in a spiritual and social amalgamation.

2. That a world peace conference be convened at an early date.

3. That a world peace Olympiad be staged every four or six years at a place free from political restrictions, wherein anti-war demonstrations be made on a large scale.

4. That a vast peace propaganda be launched during 1937, by means of press and radio.

5. A universal language is sorely needed.

6. That besides pacifist team work, pen friendship be encouraged. An exchange of letters would surely give a broader outlook of the world, and make a surer step for the cause of mutual understanding and peace.

W. J. ATTARD.

71 Strada Santa Lucia,
Valetta, Malta.

INFILTRATING?

A number of League of Nations Union organizers have been complaining of the actions of pacifists at their meetings in preventing resolutions being passed or using them for purposes of propaganda.

I feel that pacifists should not attend these meetings if they feel they cannot support the resolutions or, if they do attend them, they should abstain from voting. Many of the League of Nations Union supporters are just as sincere in their desire for peace as the pacifists—it is only in the method of attaining it that they cannot agree.

Pacifists, I am sure, do not wish to get a reputation for "infiltrating". English people strongly object to this policy.

(Mrs.) SYLVIA JEWKES.

Low Wood, Mereside Road,
Mere, Cheshire.

THIS IS YOUR
PAGE!

IDEAS FOR HELPING OTHERS

MAY I suggest that a National Pacifist Union (on the lines of a trade union) be organized to provide a fund to help those workers who may lose their employment through a conscientious refusal to continue in arms industries, and so on?

Membership might be contributory, but I believe there are many who would make substantial donations in support of liberty of conscience, even though not prepared

DO YOU?

MAKE good use of PEACE NEWS when you have finished with it. Pass it on to that friend of yours who is on the verge of "coming over." Leave it in the bus or train going home.

WILL HAYDEN.

63 Calabria Road,
Highbury, N.5.

themselves to accept the full pacifist position.

Probably the organization might soon be "questioned", but it is certain that we pacifists in general have, so far, done little to help conscientious objectors in their stand against militarism.

ARTHUR PRIEST.

Bonvenu,
Manley, Cheshire.

DOES BRITAIN WANT
WAR?

Peace and war are incidentals only in human relationships, the former indicating the existence of a friendly relationship and the latter a failure to attain or maintain such a friendly relationship.

The choice then for those who earnestly strive for peace is not peace or war, but friendship or enmity. I am afraid that our country desires enmity as it is at present pursuing a negative policy of security and the maintenance of the status quo.

If we desire friendship and peace we must unequivocally be prepared to assume the responsibilities, obligations, and self-sacrifice attaching to friendship.

CHARLES H. R. GRIMES.

585 Finchley Road,
Hampstead, N.W.3.

NOT ENOUGH

I was glad to read in PEACE NEWS Dr. Sheppard's statement that it is not enough to say we will not touch war, and that pacifism is a moral, social, and economic activity.

It is not enough to say to the dissatisfied nations that we pacifists will not fight, while British forces protect the British quarter of the habitable parts of the earth, and British tariff barriers make it impossible for other nations to expand by methods of peaceful trade.

In such an attitude we should be as heartless as the man who, seeing robbery committed, passed on his way declaring that he would not steal.

ARTHUR H. WELLER.

69 Piccadilly,
Manchester 1.

WHEREVER a recognized and specific evil or injustice exists it is the duty of pacifists to bring this to the public notice and to work for its abolition. In this way our life and action will be the best answer to those who criticize pacifism as a purely negative creed.

The present law allows women and young persons to be employed for sixty hours a week in non-textile factories and workshops, and for fifty-five and a half hours in textile factories. It is true that in many organized industries a working week of forty-eight hours or less has been achieved but in many other industries women and girls are employed up to the full legal limit.

The Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops notes in his report for 1935 that improvement in trade has resulted in a tendency to return to very long hours.

In order to inform and canalize public opinion on this matter the Factories Bill Campaign has been launched by a committee of the British Association for Labour Legislation, under the chairmanship of Miss Gertrude Tuckwell. Full particulars may be obtained from Miss Rosamund Tweedt, 32 Primrose Hill Road, N.W.3, or from the undersigned.

PRISCILLA CAMPBELL.

108 Guildford Street,
London, W.C.1.

"THOU SHALT
NOT..."

Throughout the ages we have been taught God spake these words:

Thou shalt not kill,
Thou shalt not covet,
Thou shalt not steal.

Since no empire came into being by obeying these laws but by disobeying them, we should first decide if these laws really are God's laws. If so, surely it is high time that we started to put them into practice.

If they are not, then sincerity and honesty demand that they be expunged from the teaching of the Churches.

These three laws are fundamental if peace and good will are to be the order of the day. Any society which has grown in defiance of these laws contains within itself the seeds of its own destruction.

CHARLES STUART.

8 Higheroft Road,
Crouch Hill, N.19.

FIERY TRIAL

Do pacifists realize the fiery trial that awaits them should war break out? To expect that those who base their attitude on the anti-Christian ethics of expediency will stand that trial, is foolhardy.

It is only too obvious that nine-tenths of so-called pacifists will, upon the first sneer or allegation of cowardice, join in with whatever devilry may be acclaimed as patriotism or assigned in blasphemy as the teaching of Christ.

On this the militarists are banking. To the tenth part alone, loyal to his divine example and teaching, we may look to face death and disaster rather than betray that sacred trust.

WILLIAM E. KIRK.

27 Greenhill Avenue,
Giffnock, Glasgow.

A COMMON SENSE
MATTER

THE use of modern armaments is so suicidal that any arguments based upon it fall short of complete sanity, as the Prime Minister himself has indicated. Moreover the approved military doctrine is "Get your knock in first", which means that a very light pressure upon the war button may at any moment bring the complete horror into action.

At this point the non-pacifist ceases to think. Armaments are now mere bluff, a bluff everyone is afraid to have called, and those who are at present employing this bluff of course know this as well as we do.

The obvious alternative before us is an all round consideration of the distribution—notoriously a very unequal one—of this world's goods. This of course implies some willingness to make sacrifices, and sacrifices to a commercial age are bad business.

But it is also bad business to admit our real motives, so this much of tribute we pay to the idealist, we advertise our objection as based upon the love of independence, of liberty, and so forth, but we don't think so far as to estimate what can be the possible benefits to the miserable survivors of another general war.

Most pacifists share with non-pacifists a little common sense. They are out against State organized warfare, not against slapping the cat for stealing the butter! In the name of what are they called upon to take part in such a game as this?

C. F. C. PADEL.

Fairfield, Inkpen,
Berkshire.

ARMS TRADE

It can be definitely proved that armament rings have financed Hitler and are spreading propaganda in Britain.

If the Peace Pledge Union could lay bare this bogey the people of our country would perhaps not place such implicit faith in armaments. I would recommend that groups might study "The Secret International" and "Patriotism Ltd." published by the Union of Democratic Control.

F. RUSSELL RALPHS.

48 Cobnar Road,
Sheffield, 8.

A P.P.U. IN THE
EAST?

There seems much in common between the movements for non-violence in the East and the West, and we felt in our cell recently that a movement should be initiated to join them together.

A Peace Pledge Union started in India by Mahatma Gandhi would be eagerly taken up, and this would greatly strengthen the forces against war.

W. R. BURWELL.

19 Evington Road,
Leicester.

A FINANCIAL QUERY

A large number of people lent the Government money in the War. This produced the national debt. I presume the Government has to pay interest on this debt. Does the nation as a whole bear the burden?

How far is it true to say that today we are in the power of the Government's creditors? The issues involved seem to my lay mind to be very far reaching. Can anyone suggest a book to read on the subject?

"NOMIKOS".

A FURTHER SELECTION FROM OUR POSTBAG

A REPLY TO LORD ALLEN

THOSE who decided to be "cowardly conchies" in the next war, while crouching in waterlogged shell holes in the last, must have seen the humorous side of Lord Allen's suggestion that P.P.U. recruits only given a day to think things over would be "unable to withstand the strain of resisting war."

Despite Lord Allen's assurance, ex-tagets will find resisting war a million times easier than resisting bullets and so on.

No intelligent youngster needs more than five minutes to decide whether he is prepared to offer his body as a human target for the sole benefit of "Home Front" conscription advocates and war profiteers.

W. RATHBONE.

29 Brooklands Drive,
Greenford, Middlesex.

DIARY OF THE WEEK

Today. 8 p.m. Corner of Harold Road and Green Street, **Upton Park**; open-air meeting; P.P.U., Forest Gate team.

Mon. 5 p.m. University College, **London, W.C.1**; open meeting to be addressed by Gerald Heard on "Non-resistance"; Montessori Society.

8 p.m. 34 Churchill Road, **Edgware**; meeting of signatories in N.W.4, N.W.7, N.W.9, and Edgware district to be addressed by John Barclay on arrangements for New Year campaign; P.P.U.

Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m.-9 p.m. 337 Smith-down Road, **Wavertree**; free exhibition, "The Spirit of Christ" and "The Spirit of War".

Tues. 1.30 p.m. 36 Ludgate Hill, **London, E.C.4**; meeting to be addressed by Canon S. D. Morris; Peace Pledge Book Shop.

Wed. 8 p.m. Parish Church Room, **Tonbridge**; meeting to be addressed by Canon S. D. Morris; P.P.U.

Thur. 7.30 p.m. Free Church Hall, **Doncaster**; Canon S. D. Morris on "Constructive Peace"; Doncaster Pacifist Fellowship.

8 p.m. Friends' Meeting House, 594 High Road, **Tottenham**; John Barclay at meeting of Tottenham team, P.P.U.

Fri. 7.45 p.m. Bank House, **New Southgate**; meeting of New Southgate team, P.P.U.

Sat. 7 p.m. Ruskin Cafe, **Chippenham**; meeting of Chippenham and district team, P.P.U.

CHANCE FOR ACTIVE PACIFISM

A PACIFIST'S sole duty is no more to sit tight and tell the Government he won't fight, than a Christian's is to turn the other cheek. There is an "active pacifism" for the former as surely as there is the "sword of the spirit" for the latter.

It would be a gesture of "active pacifism" if every member of the P.P.U. set aside, weekly, what he could afford toward food and clothing for the distressed areas.

An average of 1s. per head would realize about £6,000, which sum, wisely spent, would unspeakably bless the Rhondda Valley.

Practical sympathy has more far-reaching results than political agitation.

This, I believe, would be an ideal which would cross barriers of frontier and creed, alike—and, perhaps, earn at last the tribute, "In as much as ye did it unto one of the least of these, ye did it unto ME."

BRIAN L. RICKETT.

56 Durand Gardens,
London, S.W.9.

"Miss Regent"

writes on

ADVERTIZING THE P.P.U.

I HAD an interesting letter the other day from a member in Birmingham who suggested that each member of the Peace Pledge Union "should be part and parcel of the advertizing department".

He goes on to suggest that each member should send a pamphlet once a week or once a month to a friend and that every one who takes PEACE NEWS should pass on his copy.

The response to my appeal for 1,000 £5 notes has been distinctly poor. Perhaps there are 5,000 people who would send £1?

★

I AM glad to say that the response to the appeal for clothes and money for Madrid has been better; I should like to take this opportunity of thanking those who have sent in parcels of clothing without enclosing their names. All the clothes received have been of a really good quality.

Will everyone please note that owing to changes in the filing system the pledge card department will be closed from January 4 to 11 and no lists or circulars will be sent out.

A MISLEADING PHRASE

MR. ALDOUS HUXLEY has recently made us familiar with the ambiguity of such terms as "force" and, in common with the other leaders of the Peace Pledge Union, has done much to dissipate the illusion that pacifism is merely passive. But a new phrase has recently come into circulation which seems to me at least as harmful as either of these terms.

Pacifism is now being quoted on all sides as the doctrine of "non-resistance"—although it must be obvious to anyone who has made even a cursory examination of the relevant literature that the phrase in which we sum up our technique is "non-violent resistance."

Recent examples of the former usage are:—

1. As a caption to Mr. Harold Nicholson's letter to the "Daily Telegraph" criticizing the Peace Pledge Union and Mr. Bertrand Russell's recent book.

2. By a member of the House of Commons in debate.

3. By the author of the featured answer to the "Challenge" in a recent issue of PEACE NEWS.

The second instance best reveals the startling potentialities of the phrase. The occasion was the debate on Divorce Law Reform and the remark was to the effect that no individual would willingly tolerate the anomalies of the present system "except, perhaps, those who believe in preaching and practising non-resistance".

The substitution of the more accurate phrase would obviously reduce the jibe to mere nonsense, but in the above form it naturally caused considerable amusement.

In time of war the exploitation of the term would be less funny and more thorough. I trust, therefore, that PEACE NEWS will take steps to eliminate an idiom which is inept, ignoble, and inaccurate.

ROY WALKER.

41 Gloucester Street,
London, S.W.1.

CHRIST AND SWORDS

Jesus instructed his disciples to take swords to the scene of his betrayal and used the occasion to stress again his doctrine of pacifism.

Did he not say "They that take the sword shall perish by the sword"?

The militarists are self condemned when they quote the episode of the swords to prove Jesus Christ's approval of violence for defence.

JOHN PURSAILL.

20 Arcade,
Northampton.

A WORLD APPEAL

Why not mobilize the expressed peace desire of the people of the world in a gigantic petition of appeal to Mr. Roosevelt to use his tremendous influence, in the cause of peace, by calling for a world peace and reconstruction conference, as suggested by George Lansbury?

Such an appeal could not possibly be ignored or shelved, and I would ask you to pause and reflect on the overwhelming power such an appeal would bring into being.

A great demonstration could be organized at Washington when the appeal petition would be presented to Mr. Roosevelt.

Let the peace societies of Great Britain take the lead in starting this

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HEALTH TREATMENT

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LITERATURE

What is the pacifist attitude to events in Spain today?

READ

"SPAIN, A CHALLENGE TO PACIFISM"

(Price 2d.)

By

H. RUNHAM BROWN.

Obtainable from:

The War Resisters' International,
11 Abbey Road, Enfield, Middlesex

or

The Peace Pledge Union,
96 Regent Street, London, W.1.

POSTERS

PEACE POSTERS for the times. Samples on application to the Secretary, Northern Friends' Peace Board, Spring Bank, Rawdon, near Leeds.

SITUATIONS

Vacant

OPPORTUNITY for someone who likes children; willing undertake work of small house. Husband and wife (both working) two boys at day school. London, S.W.18. Write fully. Box No. D.15.

WANTED: A young man and a boy—pacifists—for domestic work in vegetarian guest house. Apply by letter, Mrs. F. E. Morgan, Concord House, 233 Pembroke Villas, London, W.11.

WHERE TO STAY

DELIGHTFUL 16th CENTURY FARMHOUSE in Sussex is open as a guest-house to those desiring restful and health-giving holidays. Suitable for conferences or retreats. Profits are used to provide holidays for London slum-dwellers.

Write to Mrs. J. A. Corke, Micklepage Farm, Nuthurst, near Horsham, Sussex.

DERBYSHIRE HILLS.—Vegetarian Food Reform Guest House. Alt. 600ft. For happy holiday or restful recuperation. Increased accommodation. Central heating throughout; h. and c. water in all bedrooms. Central for conferences.—A. & K. S. Ludlow, The Briars, Crich, near Matlock. Tel.: Ambergate 44. Station, Ambergate (L.M.S.)

(continued from col. 3)

petition of appeal, and issue an invitation to the peace societies of all nations to do likewise. Regarding finance, each signatory to the appeal could be asked to subscribe at least one penny.

JOHN HORNE.

102 Allison Street,
Glasgow, S.2.

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PLEASE HAND THIS TO YOUR NEWSAGENT

To M.....
(Newsagent's name)

Please deliver PEACE NEWS to me weekly.

Name.....

Address.....

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Note to Newsagent.—PEACE NEWS is published weekly as a national newspaper at the retail price of 2d. It is obtainable by your wholesaler at the usual rates from the Publishers, at 59, Waterfall Road, London, N.11 (Tel: Enterprise 1888).